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| APPLICATION NO.   | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.         | CONFIRMATION NO.   |
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| 09/396,701  | 09/15/1999  | ANOOP GUPTA          | MS1-388US                   | 7827               |
| 22801   | 7590        | 09/11/2002           |                             |                    |
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|   |             |                      | ART UNIT<br>2152            | PAPER NUMBER<br>21 |
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

|                              |                 |              |
|------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| <b>Office Action Summary</b> | Application No. | Applicant(s) |
|                              | 09/396,701      | GUPTA ET AL. |
| Examiner                     | Art Unit        |              |
| B. PRIETO                    | 2152            |              |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 January 2002.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.                  2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-6,8-25,27-33 and 35-39 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-6,8-25,27-33 and 35-39 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some \* c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

#### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____  |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) <u>19</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

***Detailed Action***

1. This office action is in response to Amendment and Declaration under 37 C.F.R. 1.131 filed on 01/17/02, where claims 1-6, 8-25, 27-33 and 35-~~37~~<sup>(S)</sup> remain pending.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. Quotation of 35 U.S.C. §103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action may be found in previous office action:
3. Claims 1 and 3-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hou et. al. (Hou) U.S. Patent No. 5,838,313 in view of Sidana U.S. Patent No. 6,081,829.

Regarding claims 1, Hou teaches substantial features of the invention as claimed; teaching a system comprising:

a client computer (col 6/lines 38-51) to playback multimedia content (col 8/lines 1-15, col record/playback annotations, 6/lines 30-37) and annotations corresponding to different segments (temporal portions) of the multimedia content (e.g. voice segments, col 8/lines 61-63, playback marked segments, col 9/lines 9-17);

maintaining an annotation database (33) having a plurality of annotations corresponding to the multimedia content (col 6/lines 10-21, 38-41, multimedia storage/database);

provide the plurality of annotations to said client computer for playback (Figs. 6, and 12 playback segment, col 5/lines 18-25, col 8/lines 43-48);

send electronic mail messages (send via email col 3/lines 8-13, including multimedia, col 2/lines 63-64, annotation, col 1/lines 8-10, attachment, col 1/lines 31-39, email create or reply means: col 2/lines 25-37, sending email: col 11/lines 22-25, generating an e-mail message: col 6/lines 14-16) including annotations (col 11/lines 3-25, Fig. 1) to recipients identified by the client computer (mail listing col 4/lines 26-31, Fig. 4), via interface means to receive input data regarding new annotation corresponding to media content (col 6/lines 26-51);

opening and loading content data of an electronic mail message displaying located content data in the electronic mail message received from the mailbox (retrieved received message from mailbox and loaded content including multimedia data and annotation data rendered on display, col 4/lines 10-14, use an annotation to reply, col 9/lines 14-24), received message not in reply to a previous electronic mail message (col 2/lines 25-30, col 3/lines 13-15);

generate new annotation that include display located content data in the electronic mail message (e.g. based on existent annotation data displayed col 6/lines 21-40);

add the new annotations (attached media types (26) col 6/lines 10-25, add dynamic annotations (39), e.g. voice, col 6/lines 26-37) and save in annotation database (col 4/lines 21-25, save report col 2/lines 50-51, report includes multimedia as well as attachments, col 1/lines 39-44, add the new annotations, col 9/lines 15-32); however Hou does not explicitly teach an annotation server coupled to a client computer;

Sidana teaches a system/method for enabling client using an user interface to be presented with annotations, and maintaining a annotation multimedia server computer coupled to the client for streaming the multimedia to the client computer (abstract, col 2/lines 34-59) via a network (col 4/lines 14-33, Fig. 1, elements 106, 110, 130, annotation server 120), where an identifier, identifiers the media content associated with new annotation content (col 8/lines 5-12);

It would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Hou's system with means where an annotation server, coupled to the client computer to maintain an annotation database and to manage streaming the multimedia content to the client computer, as taught by Sidana, motivation would be enable the user via multimedia content identifiers to select for viewing or not a annotation included in a document, access a media server to obtain multimedia content corresponding to the content identifier which may further be presented in hierarchical for, where and annotation set identifier one or more sets of annotations.

Regarding claim 3, client computer coupled to the annotation server via a network (Sidana: col 8/lines 5-12).

Regarding claim 4, present an electronic mail message including a multimedia content identifier to a user (Hou: annotation event-related data in annotation file, col 7/lines 1-3, event-related data including time-slice events, col 7/lines 4-6, time-line markers include markers to specify annotation segments, col 8/lines 43-48, 61-63, col 9/lines 8-13);

receive a user selection of the multimedia content identifier, access a media server to obtain the multimedia content (Sidana: col 7/lines 62-col 8/line 26, Hou: col 11/lines 26-34, playback the multimedia content to the user).

Regarding claim 5, transmitting to the media server, an identifier of a temporal segment of the multimedia content, and wherein the media server is to provide (stream) to the client computer the multimedia content beginning with the identified temporal segment (Hou: col 6/lines 61-66, col 7/lines 1-3, col 8/line 61-63);

wherein said identifier of a temporal segment of the multimedia content is after the beginning of the multimedia content, such as time temporal range denoting the a segment of time (i.e. beginning/end), temporal range of information denoting beginning and end of a segmented multimedia content (e.g. load/display, time, begin/end of objects) (Hou: Figs. 6, 14-15, col 7/lines 4-51, col 2/lines 52-61, col 6/lines 10-14).

4. Claims 31-32, 37-39, 2, 6, and 8-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hou et. al. (Hou) U.S. Patent No. 5,838,313 in view of Sidana U.S. Patent No. 6,081,829 in view further view of Birrel et. al. (Birell) U.S. Patent No. 6,009,462.

Regarding claim 31, further teach wherein a method comprising:

receiving an electronic mail message including an annotation corresponding to media content (Hou: col 4/lines 10-14, media content including multimedia annotation, col 1/lines 39-44, col 3/lines 9-13);

replying to the electronic mail message to generate a new annotation corresponding to the media content (Hou: add or use existing annotation reply, col 9/lines 14-24, col 6/lines 26-37. reply to original annotation, col 2/lines 25-30);

including in reply electronic mail message multimedia content annotation file (Hou: annotation file including event data, col 7/lines 1-3, event data including category, e.g. time-based annotation, col 7/lines 4-6, event data e.g. markers or identifier to specify annotation segments, col 8/lines 43-48, col 9/lines 8-13);

displaying a recipient list corresponding to the identified annotation category in the received electronic mail message (Hou: reply by inserting annotation in received message, col 2/line 25-31, adding annotation, col 6/lines 26-37);

however the above teaching do not explicitly teach receiving notification that an electronic mail message has been received, received electronic mail notifying an annotation corresponding to media content.

Birrel teaches a system/method related the composition and distribution of multimedia email, teaching receiving announcement, notice, indication, hint, i.e. notification that an electronic mail message has been received (Birrel: col 11/lines 43-52), received electronic mail notifying an annotation corresponding to media content (Birrel: col 12/lines 1-11, audio type, col 12/lines 4-44), analyzing an electronic mail message to locate multimedia data and include located data in a storage (Birrel: col 12/lines 61-col 13/line 7) and including an identifier of media content to which the annotation content corresponds.

It would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to include means for receiving notification that an electronic mail message has been received, received electronic mail notifying to include an identifier of the media content but does not include the media content, as taught Birrell, motivation would be enable a plurality of client machines to create/receive annotations within electronic mail messages to include multiple media content types such, HTML pages of embedded MIME fragments all implemented with standard existing software, annotate electronic mail messages with mutable identifiers for categorized storage/retrieval and access mail via low-bandwidth network connections by generating user-linkable annotations within an electronic mail message, as taught by Birrel.

Regarding claim 2, a media server to manage streaming the multimedia content to the client computer, including being communicated to the client upon request (i.e. as needed) (Birrel: col 12/line 59-col 13/line 7).

Regarding claim 32, electronic mail notification including an identifier of the annotation (Birrel: notification of received/unread labels, col 11/lines 43-52, identifier (hot-link) of the annotation, col 12/lines 1-11); and including the identifier of the annotation in the reply (Hou: col 5/lines 10-28).

Regarding claim 37, this is the computer-readable media having stored thereon a computer program that when executed by processor(s) performs the functions disclosed on the system of claim 1, rejected for obviousness under U.S.C. 103, this same rationale is also applied to software implementation claim, claimed in terms of function, property or characteristic.

Regarding claim 38, substantially the same as claim 1, and further creating a new annotation based on the extracted annotation content and the annotation identification information (Hou: e.g. based on existent annotation displayed col 6/lines 21-40);

add the new annotations (Hou: attached media types (26) col 6/lines 10-25, add dynamic annotations (39), e.g. voice, col 6/lines 26-37) and save in annotation database (Hou: col 4/lines 21-25, save report col 2/lines 50-51, report includes multimedia as well as attachments, col 1/lines 39-44).

Regarding claim 39, further teach an identifier of media content to which the annotation content corresponds and an identifier of media content to which the annotation content of a temporal segment (Birrel: col 12/lines 61-col 13/line 7, identifier (hot-link) of media content to which the annotation content corresponds, Hou: identifier of media content to which the annotation of temporal segment corresponds, 6/lines 4-25, annotation event-related included the annotation file, col 7/lines 1-3, recording generates time-slice events, col 7/lines 4-6, time-lime identifiers (markers) include markers to specify annotation segments, col 8/lines 43-48, 61-63, col 9/lines 8-13); and

an identifier of an annotation set that a new annotation including the extracted annotation content is to be part of (Birrel: col 12/lines 61-col 13/line 7), wherein the annotation set is one of one or more annotation sets corresponding to categories format types for annotations (Hou: col 7/lines 4-51, col 2/lines 52-61, col 6/lines 10-14).

Regarding claims 6, displaying to the user, a user interface (Hou: Fig. 5, col 2/lines 62-col 3/line 14, canvas, col 4/lines 32-col 5/lines) allowing the user to create a new annotation (Hou: col 2/lines 52-56, adding/generating means: col 6/lines 10-37) corresponding to media content (Hou: Fig. 5);

including, as part of the user interface (Hou: abstract: col 1/lines 65-col 2/line 5), a field via which the user can identify a recipient that is to receive an electronic mail notification of the new annotation (Hou: col 4/lines 26-32 list recipients, Figs. 4, 12, Sidana: col 1/lines 55-62), and

transmitting the new annotation to an annotation server (Hou: add the new annotations attached media types (26) col 6/lines 10-25, add dynamic annotations (39), e.g. voice, col 6/lines 26-37 and save in annotation database col 4/lines 21-25, save report col 2/lines 50-51);

wherein the electronic mail message includes an annotation and an identifier of the media content but does not include the media content (Birrel: col 12/lines 61-col 13/line 7).

Claim 7 cancelled.

Regarding claim 8, including in the electronic mail message an indication of one of a plurality of annotation sets, the one annotation set corresponding to the media content of the new annotation; (Hou: col 6/lines 10-14, 26-51, 61-66, sending/displaying mail: col 11/lines 22-25, wherein the annotations sets corresponds to categories for annotations; different types of media, allows the user to record/playback annotations, an use can create reports by including multiple media data; col 2/line 50-col 3/line 13).

Regarding claim 9, allowing the user to identify, via the field of the user interface, a plurality of recipients to receive the electronic mail notification, as discussed above, and forwarding, to each

of the plurality of recipients, the electronic mail notification of the new annotation (Hou: col 4/lines 26-31, Fig. 4).

Regarding claim 10, allowing the user to input, via the field of the user interface, a group identifier, as discussed above, Hou: col 4/lines 26-31); identifying an electronic mail address for each of a plurality of recipients corresponding to the group identifier; and forwarding, to each of the plurality of recipients (Hou: col 4/lines 26-31, Fig. 4), the electronic mail notification of the new annotation.

Regarding claims 11-12, presenting, as part of the user interface, a default set of recipients to receive the electronic mail notification, Hou: col 4/lines 26-31).

Regarding claims 17, receiving an electronic mail notification of a new annotation corresponding to media content (Birrel: receiving announcement, notice, indication, hint, i.e. notification that an electronic mail message has been received, col 11/lines 43-52, received electronic mail notifying new annotation corresponding to one of a plurality of temporal segments after the beginning of the media content (Hou: temporal beginning/end marker, Figs. 6, 14-15, col 6/line 10-14, col 2/line 52-61);

displaying the electronic mail notification to the user (Birrel: col 11/lines 43-52, sending and displaying mail: col 11/lines 22-25);

user selecting an identifier presented by the electronic mail notification of the media content and accessing responsive to said selection (col 12/lines 1-11, col 12/line 61-col 13/line 7) and rendered media content corresponding to said temporal segment (Sidana: displaying col 4/lines 14-43, accessing via user input: col 5/lines 58-col 6/line 6, col 7/lines 62-col 8/line 26, wherein user input comprises the selection of a URL of the media content identifier, col 12/lines 2-27 used to retrieve multimedia content at location associated with the identifier upon user selection of the media content associated with said annotation, wherein the said annotation does not include the media content created by the user, col 12/lines 59-col 13/line 13);

Regarding claim 18, displaying annotation content for new annotation to the user (Hou: col 6/lines 38-56).

Regarding claim 19, displaying annotation content for the new annotation (Hou: col 6/lines 38-56), including one identifier to the user including one content identifier that identifies the media content such as a range identifier that identifies a temporal range of the segment corresponding to the new annotation (Sidana: in the electronic mail message, an identifier of the new annotation, col 8/lines 5-12, an identifier of the temporal range of media content Hou: col 8/lines 61-63, col 9/lines 1-4, col 6/lines 61-66, col 7/lines 1-3),

an annotation identifier that identifies the new annotation one of annotation sets that the new annotation is part of (Hou: col 5/lines 10-28).

Regarding claim 20-21 user selection of a content identifier consisting of an Url (Birrell: 12/lines 61-col 13/line 7, identifier (hot-link) of media content to which the annotation content corresponds).

Regarding claim 22, receiving a user input comprises receiving a user selection of an identifier of the annotation (Hou: col 6/lines 61-66, col 7/line 1-3).

Regarding claim 23, further discusses the apparatus for receiving step discusses on claim 17 apparatus, rejected for obviousness under U.S.C. 103, this same rationale is also applied to software implementation claim, claimed in terms of function, property or characteristic.

Regarding claim 24, further user-selectable identifier comprises Url that identifies a server and a location at the server where the media content is located (Sidana: col 7/lines 62-col 8/line 26, Birrel, location-URL, col 3/lines 44-55, links in email, col 12/lines 22-67, not the multimedia content, col 13/lines 1-7)

Regarding claim 25, further discusses the apparatus for receiving step discusses on claim 17, apparatus for generating email communicated on claim 6, user selection discussed on claim 23,

rejected for obviousness under U.S.C. 103, this same rationale is also applied to software implementation claim, claimed in terms of function, property or characteristic.

Claim 26, cancelled.

Regarding claim 27, the electronic mail message further includes a unique identifier of the new annotation (Sidana: col 7/lines 62-col 8/line 26).

Regarding claim 28, the electronic mail message further includes an identifier of one of a plurality of annotation sets, corresponding to categories (e.g. format types) for annotations, that the new annotation is associated with (Hou: col 2/lines 52-61, e.g. voice, etc. col 6/lines 10-14).

Regarding claims 29-30, annotation server, client computer running an user interface (Sidana: user interface to be presented with annotations, to the client computer abstract, annotation server 120, col 8/lines 5-12);

Regarding claim 33, receiving an electronic mail thread including a plurality of electronic mail messages (Birrell: news group annotations (e.g. notes), col 9/line 31-39 organizing received mail thread); creating a plurality of annotation from at least one of the electronic mail messages in the electronic mail thread (Hou: generating an electronic mail message including both the content of the new annotation and an identifier of the media content, create electronic mail messages col 3/lines 8-13, create means: col 2/lines 25-37, col 3/lines 9-13); and adding a plurality of annotation to an annotation database (Hou: add the new annotations, col 9/lines 15-32, col 1/lines 17-20, adding annotations means: col 5/lines 29-52, report: col 6/lines 10-14, Fig. 3, saving in annotation database).

Claim 34, cancelled.

Regarding claim 35, the creating comprises generating, for each of the plurality of electronic mail messages, an annotation (Hou: generating an electronic mail message including both the

content of the new annotation and an identifier of the media content, create electronic mail messages col 3/lines 8-13, create means: col 2/lines 25-37, col 3/lines 9-13); and the adding comprises adding each of the generated annotations to the annotation database (Hou: add the new annotations, col 9/lines 15-32, col 1/lines 17-20, adding annotations means: col 5/lines 29-52, report: col 6/lines 10-14, Fig. 3, saving in annotation database).

Regarding claim 36, locating, in the electronic mail thread, an identifier of media content that the annotation corresponds to (Sidana: mail message further includes a unique identifier of the new annotation, col 7/lines 62-col 8/line 26, wherein the electronic mail message further includes an identifier of one or more annotation sets that the new annotation is associated with, Hou: col 5/lines 10-28, Birrell: mail thread, e.g. news groups annotations (e.g. notes), col 9/line 31-39 organizing received mail thread).

Regarding claims 40, link to installation program (Birrel: col 12/lines 35-44).

Regarding claims 41-42, substantially the same limitations as discussed on claims 1, 17, and 23 and further an field including data identifying a sender of the electronic mail message as an author of the new annotation corresponding to the media content included in the electronic mail message (Birrel, col 11/lines 53-67); and

a field including data identifying the time at which the new annotation is generated, a field including data identifying a title of the new annotation (Birrel, col 12/lines 12-14, a field including the located data (Birrel, col 12/lines 1-11, and a field including data identifying the media content to which the new annotation corresponds (Birrel, col 12/lines 22-44);

creation/time (Sidana: col 7/lines 1-6), title (Sidana: col 8/lines 44-53).

5. Claims 13-16, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hou-Sidana in view of Birrel U.S. Patent No. 6,009,462 in further view of Russell et. al. (Russell) U.S. Patent No. 5,526,407.

Regarding claim 13, substantially the same as claims 1 and 15, discussed above, further, however the above combined teachings do not explicitly teach where an installation option that identifies an installation program that can be used to install one modules allowing the content and corresponding media content to be rendered;

Russell teaches a system/method related to for capturing, categorizing, and organizing by categories by using temporal segment identifiers of the media content, managing and retrieving multimedia (combined integrated media: audio, video text, graphics, etc. information) (see Russell: col 1/line 22-col 2/line 36, teaching means for annotating text to voice media content, col 3/lines 3-26, col 5/line 57-col 6/line 36, 45-col 7/line 16, identifiers of temporal segments of the multimedia content that are after the beginning of the multimedia content: col 10/line 60-col 11/line 34, col 11/line 65-col 12/line 16, col 13/lines 3-31, 57-64), disclosing installation option that identifies an installation program that can be used to install one module allowing the content and corresponding media content to be rendered (col 16/lines 47-col 19/line 35).

It would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate extendable or optional functionality allowing the content media type/format to be displayed (rendered), as taught by Russell, motivation would be enhance existing annotation/playback-based system with of replaying annotated multimedia content in a significantly order that which the media was originally stored, where temporal markers enable the support the enhancement of a playback that will require less time to render media content and enables the user to navigate through the media content by using visual cues.

Regarding claim 14, including in the electronic mail message an identifier of the new annotation (Sidana: col 8/lines 5-12).

Regarding claim 15, including in the electronic mail message, an identifier of the temporal range of media content (Hou: email including multimedia and attachments, col 1/lines 39-44, multimedia attachments, col 6/lines 4-25, annotation event-related included the annotation file, col 7/lines 1-3, recording generates time-slice events, col 7/lines 4-6, time-lime markers include markers to specify annotation segments, col 8/lines 43-48, 61-63, col 9/lines 8-13).

Regarding claim 16, method/program (Sidana: col 1/lines 55-62).

**Related U.S. Patents:**

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure; pertinence is presented in accordance with MPEP§ 707.05. Copies of documents cited will be provided as set forth in MPEP§ 707.05(a):

Ref A: Integrated multimedia messages concepts and applications, Symposiums on Applied Computing, Proceedings of the 1996, ACM, ISBN: 0-89791-820-7, 1996, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, pages 12-16.

Pizano et. al. teaches extracting multimedia content from an email message and storing retrieved content elsewhere in the network, using external-references or pointers provided to the recipient which is to retrieve stored multimedia content upon request.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Prieto, B. whose telephone number is (703) 305-0750. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 6:00 to 3:30 p.m. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's Supervisor, Mark H. Rinehart can be reached on (703) 305-4815. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 308-6606. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3800/4700.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

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Or:

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Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Fourth Floor (Receptionist), further ensuring that a receipt is provided stamped "TC 2100".

(B)  
B. Prieto  
Patent Examiner

September 9, 2002



MARK H. RINEHART  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100